

REMARKS

Introduction

Receipt of the Office Action mailed November 3, 2003 is acknowledged. The present amendment cancels claim 20 and amends claims 1-19 and 21-25 in formal regards to overcome matters relating to form of the claims as opposed to substance and are being made to comply with US requirements. No new matter has been added. Entry of the amendment and favorable reconsideration are earnestly solicited.

Claim Objections

Claims 14 and 24 were objected to under 37 CFR 1.75(c), as being of improper dependent form for failing to further limit the subject matter of a previous claim. In response to this objection, claims 14 and 24 have been amended to comply with 37 CFR. Withdrawal of the objection is respectfully requested.

Claim Rejections – 35 USC § 112

Claims 1-24 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. The claims have been reviewed and clarified along the lines helpfully suggested by the Examiner. Withdrawal of this rejection and favorable reconsideration are respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes additional changes should be made, the Examiner is courteously invited to contact the office of the undersigned attorney of record to discuss such proposals.

In view of the above, each of the presently pending claims in this application is believed to be in immediate condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to pass this application to issue.

Application No.: 09/787,416

Docket No.: 22135-00008-US

Applicant believes no fee is due with this response. However, if a fee is due, please charge our Deposit Account No. 22-0185, under Order No. 22135-00008-US from which the undersigned is authorized to draw.

Dated: January 29, 2004

Respectfully submitted,

By Susan E. Shaw McBee

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Attachments